



PRESS RELEASE

Baker-Polito Administration Announces \$32 Million in Local Aid to 59 Communities

Community Development Block Grants provide municipalities with flexible funding to pursue infrastructure improvements, provide services to residents, and tackle a broad range of needs

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Housing and Community Development

Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development

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BOSTON — Today, the Baker-Polito Administration announced the 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Awards, providing more than \$32 million across 41 projects, which will benefit 59 communities. These awards will enable communities to address local needs by pursuing a variety of housing, community, and economic development projects.

“Massachusetts cities and towns have unique needs, and our Administration continues to partner with municipalities to ensure they can access the most effective resources, including federal grant programs,” **said Governor Charlie Baker.** “Through the tools we created in our 2016 Economic Development Legislation, and those we’ve proposed in this year’s legislation and the Housing Choice Initiative, we will continue these meaningful partnerships and pursue high-impact projects that will better the lives of Massachusetts residents.”

“Today’s Community Development Block Grants will help thousands of committed local leaders across the Commonwealth’s 351 build better roads, ensure access to services for everyone and keep local housing stock in great condition,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.**

The 2018 CDBG awards will enable the rehabilitation of 280 housing units, support food pantries in eight communities, allow 16 communities to pursue small infrastructure projects, and provide social services in

17 communities. Projects range from a theater feasibility study in North Adams, to parking improvements in Southbridge, and small business technical assistance and commercial rehabilitation in Gardner, Everett, and Stoughton.

"We're thrilled to support such a diverse array of projects in cities and towns throughout Massachusetts," **said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash.** "From business assistance to housing assistance, these awards will help communities prepare for future success by building a strong foundation for their residents."

"Today's award of flexible, direct resources recognizes the local knowledge our smaller cities and towns have about the needs of their families, seniors, businesses, and vulnerable populations," **said Housing and Community Development Undersecretary Janelle Chan.** "From housing rehabilitation, to childcare assistance, social services like ESOL and first-time homebuyer courses, and infrastructure improvements, these funds will strengthen entire communities and enable residents to better participate in community development."

CDBG is a competitive grant program designed to help small cities and towns meet a broad range of community development needs. Assistance is provided to qualifying cities and towns for housing, community, and economic development projects that assist low and moderate-income residents, or revitalize areas of blight. CDBG funds are allocated annually to the Commonwealth through the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered by the MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Since 2015, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded nearly \$110 million to projects benefitting more than 180 communities.

2018 Community Development Block Grant Awardees:

Adams will receive \$550,000 to provide renovations to the Memorial School facility.

Agawam will receive \$799,750 for housing rehabilitation assistance to 17 units, an aging in place repairs program for 30 units and a planning project for accessibility improvements to town hall.

Amherst will receive \$825,000 for east Hadley Road infrastructure improvements, planning for ADA transition plan, and to provide support for a food pantry, homelessness services, adult literacy, immigrant services and family stabilization services.

Athol will receive \$643,252 for infrastructure improvements to Marble Street.

Ayer will receive \$750,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance to five units and infrastructure improvements to Prospect and Oak streets.

Brookfield will receive \$800,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance to five units and infrastructure improvements to Hayden and Hyde streets.

Buckland will receive \$800,000 for infrastructure improvements to Williams Street and to support a food pantry.

Chelsea will receive \$825,000 for division street improvements, housing rehabilitation assistance to five units, code enforcement, microenterprise assistance, first-time homebuyer assistance for 9 units and social service assistance to include youth services, ESOL and citizenship training.

Cheshire and New Marlborough will receive \$998,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance to 25 units.

Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield and Worthington will receive \$870,158 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 12 units, planning for a senior center and to provide childcare assistance, elder services and a food pantry.

Clinton will receive \$486,715 for housing rehabilitation assistance to five units and for infrastructure improvements to Walnut Street.

Dennis will receive \$825,000 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 15 units, and childcare assistance.

East Longmeadow will receive \$798,882 for housing rehabilitation assistance to 15 units, housing authority modernization, planning for town hall accessibility and to provide support for a food pantry.

Easthampton will receive \$798,000 for infrastructure improvements to Admiral Street neighborhood.

Edgartown, Aquinnah and West Tisbury will receive \$1,134,472 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 20 units and to provide childcare assistance.

Everett will receive \$825,000 to provide John Kearins playground improvements, microenterprise assistance to 5 businesses and social service assistance to include homelessness prevention, ESOL, youth services and a food pantry.

Fairhaven will receive \$771,697 for infrastructure improvements to Hedge Street.

Gardner will receive \$825,000 for public facilities improvements including targeted demolition, downtown accessibility improvements, small business technical assistance and social service assistance to include youth services, veteran's services and domestic violence prevention.

Greenfield will receive \$825,000 for housing rehabilitation to three units, targeted demolition, infrastructure improvements, code enforcement, a commercial rehabilitation program and support for a

food pantry and elder services.

Hardwick will receive \$800,000 for ADA improvements to town hall.

Huntington will receive \$408,025 for infrastructure improvements to Aldrich Avenue and to provide design for ADA improvements to town hall.

Marlborough will receive \$800,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance to 9 units and for infrastructure improvements to McEnelly and Devens streets.

Montague will receive \$737,395 for housing rehabilitation assistance to 2 units, rehabilitation of Rutter's Park and to provide social services to include family education, recovery counseling, a meals program and youth leadership training.

Monterey, Sandisfield and Egremont will receive \$1,025,550 for housing rehabilitation for 19 units.

North Adams will receive \$825,000 for targeted demolition, park improvements, and design for Ashland Street, planning for Eagle Street and a theater feasibility study and social services.

Oak Bluffs and Tisbury will receive \$838,871 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 12 units and to provide childcare assistance.

Orange will receive \$800,000 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 15 units

Rockland will receive \$745,000 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 22 units

Russell, Huntington, Middlefield and Chester will receive \$1,090,860 for infrastructure improvements to Pomeroy Terrace, planning for infrastructure improvements and to support a food pantry, elder services, adult education and domestic violence prevention.

Shelburne will receive \$551,066 parking improvements to Deerfield Avenue and to support a food pantry.

Southbridge will receive \$825,000 for Central Street parking improvements, commercial rehabilitation assistance for two businesses and code enforcement.

Spencer will receive \$555,000 for rehabilitation assistance to 14 units and design for infrastructure improvements.

Stoughton will receive \$586,141 to provide commercial rehabilitation assistance to 14 businesses.

Townsend will receive \$800,000 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 15 units and to support a fuel assistance program.

Truro, Harwich, Eastham and Provincetown will receive \$1,142,813 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 20 units and to provide childcare assistance.

Wales, Brimfield and Holland will receive \$806,250 to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to 24 units, planning for a senior housing study and to support a food pantry.

Ware will receive \$725,000 for spring street infrastructure improvements and domestic violence prevention services.

Warren, Ware and Hardwick will receive \$749,420 for housing rehabilitation services to 17 units and to support social services for domestic violence prevention, adult education and community health.

Wareham will receive \$825,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance for 12 units, housing authority modernization and support for senior outreach, homelessness prevention, boys and girls club, and literacy and transportation services.

Webster will receive \$825,000 for downtown streets infrastructure improvements.

West Springfield will receive \$825,000 for housing rehabilitation assistance for seven units, Gardner Street infrastructure improvements, code enforcement, planning for the Merrick neighborhood and support for family self-sufficiency and homebuyer programs, ESOL, camp scholarships and head start.

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